REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-18 and 20 remain pending in this application. Claim 19 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Priority

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgment of the claim for priority. Submitted herewith are certified copies of Japanese Patent Application No. JP 2000-225180, filed July 26, 2000 and JP 2001-158815, filed May 28, 2001. Applicants request the Examiner to acknowledge the safe receipt of these documents.

35 U.S.C. §101

The rejection of claim 19 under 35 U.S.C. §101 has been rendered moot by the cancellation of the claim without prejudice or disclaimer.

35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103

Claims 1-5 and 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Kashiwazaki (U.S. Patent No. 6,570,605). Claims 6-13 rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kashiwazaki in view of Kageyama et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,504,619). Claims 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kashiwazaki in view of Hashimoto et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,804,016). Claims 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kashiwazaki and Hashimoto and further in view of Kageyama. These rejections are traversed as follows.

According to the present invention, a printer (also a printer control method and a program for controlling a printer) has a receiving buffer, executing section and pre-processing section. With reference to claim 1, the receiving buffer is set forth as receiving print data and control data and storing the print data and control data in the order of receipt. The executing section reads the received data from the receiving buffer in the order of storage and develops the received data into an image if the received data is print data, and executes a control command if the received data is a control command of the control data. The pre-processing section is configured to pre-read the received data stored in the receiving buffer before the executing section reads the received data and, when a specific control command of the control data from the pre-read received data is found, the pre-processing section executes a procedure corresponding to the detected control command prior to the executing section.

Kashiwazaki does not disclose the combination of a receiving buffer, executing section and pre-processing sectionand equivalent steps performed in the printer control device and program for controlling a printer, as claimed by Applicants. In particular, the job memory 257 of Kashiwazaki is not equivalent to the receiving buffer claimed by Applicants. The PDL data (print data) in Kashiwazaki is stored in job memory 257, however job control data is not stored in the job memory with the print data in the order of receipt, as claimed. *See*, column 4, lines 40-43 of Kashiwazaki.

The PDL analyzer 307 of Kashiwazaki is not equivalent to the executing section of the printer or the equivalent steps performed thereby that are claimed by Applicants. In particular, the PDL analyzer 307 analyzes PDL data or print data, however the PDL analyzer 307 of Kashiwazaki does not analyze the job control data and does not execute job control data. Applicants refer to column 4, lines 44-49 of the reference. Further, the job controller

306 of Kashiwazaki differs from the pre-processing section and corresponding steps of pre-reading and pre-executing claimed by Applicants. The job controller 306 does not pre-read the received data stored in the job memory because the job control data is not stored in the job memory, as before mentioned. Therefore, Kashiwazaki does not anticipate claims independent claims 1 and 18-20.

Claims 18-20, which have been amended to enhance their clarity, are directed to a printer control method (claim 18), a program for controlling a printer (claim 19) and a recording medium for storing a program for controlling a printer (claim 20). Each of the claims includes storing received print data, executing a control command if the received data is a control command of the control data, pre-reading the received data stored in the receiving buffer and pre-executing a specific control command prior to the executing if the specific control command of the control data is detected by the pre-reading. Accordingly, claims 18-20 are not anticipated by Kashiwazaki.

The remainder of the claims are dependent claims and are patentable at least for depending from independent claim 1, which is asserted to be patentable for the foregoing reasons. Further, the dependent claims set forth additional limitations not shown or suggested in the prior art. For example, claim 3 sets forth that the read-out position changing section functions such that the position in the receiving buffer for the executing section to read the received data is jumped to the position next to the cancel command when the pre-processing section has executed a cancel command. Kashiwazaki discloses a job cancel command, for example at column 5, lines 26-28, however there is no disclosure of a read-out position changing section which functions as claimed in claim 3.

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With respect to claim 6, the pre-processing section is claimed as being realized by a pre-read execute processing incorporated in a main task, which reads out received data from the receiving buffer according to a pre-read pointer, counts up the pre-read pointer every time, and functions, when the cancel command is found from the received data, to cancel the print based on the print data received prior to the cancel command. Kashiwazaki discloses a job controller 306 or a DPL analyzer 307, however these sections are not realized by a main task, and the DPL analyzer 307 does not find a cancel command, and further does not cancel printing based on the print data received prior to the cancel command when the cancel command is found. Further, the reference does not disclose a read-pointer for the read-out task and a pre-read pointer, as claimed by Applicants.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants contend that the above-identified application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and reexamination are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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